

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The following is a complete, marked up listing of revised claims with a status identifier in parentheses, underlined text indicating insertions, and strikethrough and/or double-bracketed text indicating deletions.

**LISTING OF CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) A prepaid licensing system, comprising:  
  
a storage medium in a user machine, the storage medium including licensing information allowing at least one use of software on the machine, the licensing information including unique and unchangeable information identifying the machine, ~~and~~ information for measuring a number of uses of the software on the machine and information for validating a license to the software; and  
  
a device in the machine, adapted to locally grant a license for the number of prepaid uses of the software on the machine based upon the information stored in the storage medium, wherein the device is further adapted to check validity of the software license during at least one of start-up and shut-down of the machine based on an encrypted checksum.
2. (Original) The prepaid licensing system of claim 1, wherein the device is further adapted to count a number of uses of the software on the machine.
3. (Currently Amended) The prepaid licensing system of claim 2, wherein the device is further adapted to prohibit at least one of operation of the software and operation of the machine using the software, with respect to the license, upon the count reaching zero.
4. (Cancelled)

5. (Original) The prepaid licensing system of claim 1, wherein the device is further adapted to compare the unique and unchangeable information to stored information identifying the machine on which the software will be used.
6. (Currently Amended) The prepaid licensing system of claim 5, wherein the device is adapted to prohibit at least one of operation of the software and operation of the machine using the software, with respect to the license, upon determining that the comparison does not match.
7. (Previously Presented) The prepaid licensing system of claim 3, wherein the device is further adapted to compare the unique and unchangeable information to stored information identifying the machine on which the software will be used.
8. (Currently Amended) The prepaid licensing system of claim 7, wherein the device is adapted to prohibit at least one of operation of the software and operation of the machine using the software, with respect to the license, upon determining that the comparison does not match.
9. (Original) The prepaid licensing system of claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the information stored in the storage medium is encrypted.
10. (Original) The prepaid licensing system of claim 3, wherein at least a portion of the information stored on the storage medium is encrypted.
11. (Original) The prepaid licensing system of claim 8, wherein at least a portion of the

information stored on the storage medium is encrypted.

12. (Original) The prepaid licensing system of claim 1, wherein the machine is a medical device.

13. (Original) The prepaid licensing system of claim 3, wherein the machine is a medical device.

14. (Original) The prepaid licensing system of claim 8, wherein the machine is a medical device.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium containing instructions executable on a computer for granting a license for a prepaid use of software, the computer readable medium comprising:

~~a first code segment stored in a computer device of a user machine, the first code segment~~  
including information for licensing at least one use of software on the machine, the information  
including unique and unchangeable information identifying the machine, ~~and information for~~  
measuring a number of uses of the machine, and information for validating a license to the software;  
and

~~a second code segment stored in the computer device of the user machine, the second code~~  
~~segment being adapted~~ including information that causes to cause a computer device to locally grant  
a license for the number of prepaid uses of the software on the machine based upon the information

stored in the storage medium, wherein the second code segment is further adapted to cause the computer to check validity of the software license during at least one of start-up and shut-down of the machine based on an encrypted checksum.

17. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 16, wherein the second code segment is further adapted to cause the computer to count a number of uses of software on the machine.

18. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 16, wherein the second code segment is further adapted to cause the computer to prohibit at least one of operation of the software and operation of the machine using the software, with respect to the license, upon the count reaching zero.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 16, wherein the second code segment is further adapted to cause the computer to compare the stored unique and unchangeable information to actual information identifying the machine on which the software will be used.

21. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 20, wherein the second code segment is further adapted to cause the computer to prohibit at least one of operation of the software and operation of the machine using the software, with respect to the license, upon determining that the comparison does not match.

22. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 18, wherein the second code segment is

further adapted to cause the computer to compare the stored unique and unchangeable information to actual information identifying the machine on which the software will be used.

23. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 22, wherein the second code segment is further adapted to cause the computer to prohibit at least one of operation of the software and operation of the machine using the software, with respect to the license, upon determining that the comparison does not match.

24. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 16, wherein at least a portion of the information stored on the storage medium is encrypted.

25. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 18, wherein at least a portion of the information stored on the storage medium is encrypted.

26. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 23, wherein at least a portion of the information stored on the storage medium is encrypted.

27. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 16, wherein the machine is a medical device.

28. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 18, wherein the machine is a medical device.

29. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 23, wherein the machine is a medical

device.

30. (Currently Amended) A prepaid licensing method, comprising:

storing licensing information on a user machine, the licensing information including at least one prepaid use of software, unique and unchangeable information identifying the machine, and information for measuring a number of uses of the software on the machine and information for validating a license to the software; and

locally granting a license for the number of prepaid uses of the software on the machine, based upon the stored information; and

preventing unauthorized change of information relating to the granting of the license.

31. (Original) The prepaid licensing method of claim 30, wherein the step of locally granting the license includes counting a number of uses of the software on the machine.

32. (Currently Amended) The prepaid licensing method of claim 31, further comprising:

prohibiting at least one of operation of the software and operation of the machine using the software, with respect to the license, upon the count reaching zero.

33. (Currently Amended) The prepaid licensing method of claim 30, further comprising:

checking validity of the software license during at least one of start-up and shut-down of the machine based on an encrypted checksum.

34. (Original) The prepaid licensing method of claim 30, wherein the step of locally granting the license includes comparing the stored unique and unchangeable information to actual

information identifying the machine on which the software will be used.

35. (Currently Amended) The prepaid licensing method of claim 34, further comprising:  
prohibiting at least one of operation of the software and operation of the machine using the software, with respect to the license, upon determining that the comparison does not match.

36. (Original) The prepaid licensing method of claim 32, wherein the step of locally granting the license includes comparing the stored unique and unchangeable information to actual information identifying the machine on which the software will be used.

37. (Currently Amended) The prepaid licensing method of claim 36, further comprising:  
prohibiting at least one of operation of the software and operation of the machine using the software, with respect to the license, upon determining that the comparison does not match.

38. (Original) The prepaid licensing method of claim 30, wherein at least a portion of the stored information is encrypted.

39. (Original) The prepaid licensing method of claim 32, wherein at least a portion of the stored information is encrypted.

40. (Original) The prepaid licensing method of claim 37, wherein at least a portion of the stored information is encrypted.

41. (Original) The prepaid licensing method of claim 30, wherein the machine is a medical

device.

42. (Original) The prepaid licensing method of claim 32, wherein the machine is a medical device.

43. (Original) The prepaid licensing method of claim 38, wherein the machine is a medical device.

44. (Currently Amended) A method for granting a prepaid license on a machine, comprising:

examining licensing information on a designated machine, the licensing information including information on a prepaid use of software, including a number of prepaid uses of the software and unique and unchangeable information identifying the designated machine;

comparing information identifying a machine to the unique and unchangeable information identifying the designated machine;

determining a number of uses of the software on the machine and comparing the number of uses to the number of prepaid uses; and

granting the license for use of the software on the machine for the number of prepaid uses remaining upon the information identifying the machine matching the unique and unchangeable information identifying the designated machine and upon the number of uses being determined to be less than the number of prepaid uses;

entering into a stored file, date, time of day and identity of the designated machine for each use of the software; and

examining validity of the software license during each shut-down of the machine by comparing the date, time of day and the identity of the designated machine for each use of the



software with the stored file.

45. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 44, further comprising:

prohibiting at least one of operation of the software and operation of the machine using the software, with respect to the license, upon the number of uses being determined to be at least equal to the number of prepaid uses.

46. (Cancelled)

47. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 45, further comprising:

prohibiting at least one of operation of the software and operation of the machine using the software, with respect to the license, upon determining that the comparison does not match.

48. (Original) The method of claim 45, wherein at least a portion of the information to be examined is encrypted.

49. (Original) The method of claim 45, wherein at least a portion of the information to be examined is stored and encrypted.

50. (Original) The method of claim 45, wherein the machine is a medical device.

51. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, further comprising:  
determining a number of uses of the software remaining.

52. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, further comprising:  
determining a number of uses of the software remaining and indicating the number of remaining uses on the machine.
53. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, further comprising:  
determining a number of uses of the software remaining and providing an indication on the machine upon determining that the number of remaining uses exceeds a threshold.
54. (Original) The method of claim 52, wherein the indication includes a visual indication.
55. (Original) The method of claim 52, wherein the indication includes an audible indication.
56. (Original) The method of claim 53, wherein the indication includes a visual indication.
57. (Original) The method of claim 53, wherein the indication includes an audible indication.
58. (Original) The method of claim 54, wherein the indication includes an audible indication.
59. (Original) The method of claim 56, wherein the indication includes an audible indication.
60. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for granting a prepaid license on a machine,  
comprising:  
means for examining licensing information allowing a prepaid use of software on a designated machine, the licensing information including a number of prepaid uses and unique and

unchangeable information identifying the designated machine;

means for comparing information identifying a machine to the unique and unchangeable information identifying the designated machine;

means for determining a number of uses of the software on the machine and comparing the number of uses to the number of prepaid uses; and

means for granting the license for use of the software on the machine for the number of prepaid uses remaining upon the information identifying the machine matching the unique and unchangeable information identifying the designated machine and upon the number of uses being determined to be less than the number of prepaid uses; and

means for examining validity of the software license during at least one of start-up and shut-down of the machine based on an encrypted checksum.

61. (Cancelled)

62. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 60, further comprising:

means for prohibiting at least one of operation of the software and operation of the machine using the software, with respect to the license, upon determining that the comparison does not match.

63. (Original) The apparatus of claim 60, wherein at least a portion of the information to be examined is encrypted.

64. (Original) The apparatus of claim 60, wherein at least a portion of the information to be examined is stored and encrypted.

65. (Original) The apparatus of claim 60, wherein the machine is a medical device.
66. (Original) The apparatus of claim 60, wherein the means for determining is further for determining a number of uses of the software remaining.
67. (Original) The apparatus of claim 60, wherein the means for determining is further for determining a number of uses of the software remaining, the apparatus further comprising means for indicating the number of remaining uses on the machine.
68. (Original) The apparatus of claim 60, wherein the means for determining is further for determining a number of uses of the software remaining, the apparatus further comprising means for providing an indication on the machine, upon determining that the number of remaining uses exceeds a threshold.
69. (Original) The apparatus of claim 67, wherein the indication includes a visual indication.
70. (Original) The apparatus of claim 68, wherein the indication includes a visual indication.
71. (Original) The apparatus of claim 67, wherein the indication includes an audible indication.
72. (Original) The apparatus of claim 68, wherein the indication includes an audible indication.
73. (Original) The apparatus of claim 69, wherein the indication includes an audible indication.

74. (Original) The apparatus of claim 70, wherein the indication includes an audible indication.
75. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the information on the storage medium is a software option.
76. (Original) The system of claim 75, wherein the storage medium stores both the software and the software option.
77. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 16, wherein the information is a software option.
78. (Original) The method of claim 30, wherein the information is a software option.
79. (Original) The method of claim 78, wherein both the software and the software option are stored.
80. (Original) The method of claim 44, wherein the information is a software option.
81. (Original) The method of claim 80, wherein both the software and the software option are stored.
82. (Original) The apparatus of claim 60, wherein the information is a software option.

83. (Currently Amended) The ~~apparatus~~method of claim 78, wherein both the software and the software option are stored.

84. (Original) The method of claim 30, further comprising determining a number of uses of the software remaining.

85. (Original) The method of claim 30, further comprising determining a number of uses of the software remaining and indicating the number of remaining uses on the machine.

86. (Original) The method of claim 30, further comprising determining a number of uses of the software remaining and providing an indication on the machine upon determining that the number of remaining uses exceeds a threshold.

87. (Original) The method of claim 85, wherein the indication includes a visual indication.

88. (Original) The method of claim 85, wherein the indication includes an audible indication.

89. (Original) The method of claim 86, wherein the indication includes a visual indication.

90. (Original) The method of claim 86, wherein the indication includes an audible indication.

91.-102. (Cancelled)

103. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium for granting a prepaid license on a user

machine, the computer readable medium having computer executable instructions stored thereon to configure the user machine to perform the steps comprising:

storing licensing information on a storage device in the user machine, the licensing information including at least one prepaid use of software to be licensed on the user machine, the information being unique and unchangeable information identifying the machine, and information for measuring a number of uses of the software to be licensed on the machine;

encrypting the software to be licensed so as to protect against an unauthorized use of the software; and

locally granting a license for the number of prepaid uses of the software to be licensed on the user machine, based upon the stored information.

104. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 103, further including instructions to configure the user machine to perform the steps including:

examining the stored licensing information to determine a number of prepaid uses and the unique and unchangeable information identifying the user machine;

comparing information identifying the user machine to the unique and unchangeable information stored on the storage device;

determining a remaining number of uses of the software on the user machine and comparing the remaining number of uses to the number of prepaid uses; and

granting a license for use of the software on the user machine for the number of prepaid uses remaining upon the information identifying the machine matching the unique and unchangeable information identifying the user machine and upon the number of uses being determined to be less than the number of prepaid uses; and

preventing replacement of a license file.